



Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

1

of

1

|                        |  | Complete if Known |  |
|------------------------|--|-------------------|--|
| Application Number     |  | 09/470,041        |  |
| Filing Date            |  | Dec-22-1999       |  |
| First Named Inventor   |  | Ng, William       |  |
| Art Unit               |  | 3627              |  |
| Examiner Name          |  | Cuff, Michael A.  |  |
| Attorney Docket Number |  | 60021-339701      |  |

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number<br>Number <sup>2</sup> -Kind Code <sup>3</sup> (if known) | Issue Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------|---|
| MC                 | 1                     | 5,305,200   | 04/1994                  | Hartheimer et al.                               |
| MC                 | 2                     | 5,717,989 A   | 02/10/1998               | Torzoli et al.                                  |
| MC                 | 3                     | 6,339,766 A   | 01/15/2001 <sup>2</sup>  | Gephart   |
| MC                 | 4                     | 6,463,419 A   | 10/08/2002               | Kliss   |

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document<br>Country Code <sup>2</sup> -Number <sup>3</sup> -Kind Code <sup>4</sup> (if known) | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | T <sup>5</sup> |
|--------------------|-----------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|----------------|
|                    |                       |  |                                |   |                |
|                    |                       |  |                                |   |                |

**OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner Initials  | Cite No. <sup>1</sup>  | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published | T <sup>2</sup>          |
|--------------------|------------------------|--|-------------------------|
|                    |                        |  |                         |
|                    |                        |  |                         |
|                    |                        |  |                         |
|                    |                        |  |                         |
| Examiner Signature | <i>Michael A. Cuff</i> |  | Date Considered 6/10/03 |

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.